

# The Nativity of the Lord (Year B): 24/25 December 2023

Our Parish acknowledges this land's traditional owners & custodians and pay our respects to Elders past, present, & emerging.

## THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF GORDON

St. Brigid's, Ballan ~ St. Patrick's, Gordon ~ St. Michael's, Springbank  
 Parish Priest: Fr. Justin Driscoll - ☎ 5368 9280; Out-of-hours: 0448 220 685  
 Leadership Team: Sue Daly & Brendan Maher (Springbank), Joan Bourke & Shane Carey (Gordon), Nola Kersley & Mark Conlan (Ballan)

Ex-Officio members: Paul McDowell & Jayne Bosworth. Safeguarding Officer: Aileen Toohey  
 Parish Secretary/ Parish Office (Wed/Thurs 9.30am-2.30pm): ☎ 5368 9280 or 0492 903 409  
 ✉ gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au ~ 🌐 www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (follow parish links)

**PARISH VISION:** That all parishioners and visitors are welcomed as family and nourished as the Body of Christ

### Parish Schools

**St. Brigid's Primary School**  
**St. Patrick's Primary School**

Principal: Ms Jayne Bosworth  
 Principal: Mr Paul McDowell

☎ 5368 1015  
 ☎ 5368 9495

[www.sballan.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sballan.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au](http://www.spgordon.catholic.edu.au)

### Collections last week

<b>Presbytery</b>	\$475.30	<b>Parish:</b>	\$2212
<b>Financial Year to Date: Parish:</b> \$21632.3			

### Thank You:

We thank all parishioners for their generosity. Your donations contribute to the well-being of our clergy, pastoral activities and the upkeep of our churches.

**Columban Calendars for 2024** are now available from all churches.

### Donation Boxes for St Vincent de Paul:

For parishioners wishing to contribute to Vinnies Christmas Appeal, donation boxes have been placed in the foyer of St Brigid's and St Patrick's churches.

### Office Hours over Christmas New Year:

The parish office will be closed over Christmas-New Year. The office will re-open on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> January. The mobile phone will be attended to.

We are child safe

Parishes, committed to safeguarding children, young people & vulnerable adults.

## ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC PARISH ~ BUNGAREE

St Peter's, Clarkes Hill ~ St Brendan's, Dunnstown ~ St Michael's, Bungaree  
 Parish Administrator: Fr Sajan Mathew ~ ☎ 5334 0450 ~ C/- Post Office, Bungaree Vic 3352  
 Leadership Team: Damien Ryan & Chris Frawley (Bungaree) Barry Sheehan & Dianne Reynolds (Dunnstown) Dom Prendergast & Marty Forbes (Clarkes Hill). Ex-Officio Member: Inez French.  
 Parish Secretary/ Parish Office (Tuesday 9.30am-2.30pm): ☎ 5334 0450 or 0492 903 409  
 ✉ bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au ~ 🌐 www.ballarat.catholic.org.au (follow parish links)

### Parish Schools

**St. Mary's School, Clarkes Hill**  
**St. Brendan's School, Dunnstown**

Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 5280  
 Principal: Inez French ☎ 5334 7604

[www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smclarkeshill.catholic.edu.au)  
[www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sbdunnstown.catholic.edu.au)

### Collections last fortnight:

<b>Presbytery:</b>	\$370.00	<b>Parish:</b>	\$1345.00
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### Thank You:

We thank all our parishioners and visitors to our parish for their donations to the presbytery and the planned giving program during the past year. It is sincerely appreciated. Special thanks to the Syro-Malabar community who attended St Michael's Church every Sunday afternoon to celebrate mass with Fr Sajan.

### Liturgy Readers for 2024:

The parish invites interested parishioners, including family groups, to include their name/s on next year's liturgy rosters for St Brendan's Dunnstown, St Michael's Bungaree

and St Peter's Clarkes Hill. Please contact Fr. Sajan or any member of the Leadership Team. Alternatively, email the parish office at [bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:bungaree@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Columban Calendars for 2024:** Columban calendars for 2024 are now available from all churches.

### Office Hours over Christmas New Year:

The parish office will be closed over Christmas-New Year. For urgent matters, ring Fr Sajan on the Bungaree presbytery landline: 5334 0450 or leave a message on the parish mobile phone. The office will re-open on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> January.

	READER/INTERCESSION	OFFERTORY	WEEKDAY MASSES
<b>30/31 December 2023</b>	<b>The Holy Family Gen 15: 1-6; 21: 1-3; Heb 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19</b>		
Springbank -6.30 pm	To be Advised		Tuesday - 9.30 am Bungaree
Bungaree -8.45 am	To be Advised		Wednesday - 9.30 am Bungaree
Ballan -10.30 am	Lloyd Lamb	Lorraine DeSpirt & Vikki Boka	Thursday - 9.30 am Bungaree
<b>6/7 January 2023</b>	<b>The Epiphany of the Lord Isa 60: 1-6 Eph 3:2-3, 5-6</b>		
Dunnstown-6.30 pm	Trish Ryan		Friday - 9.30am Bungaree
Gordon-9 am	To be Advised		Saturday - 9.30am Bungaree
Ballan -10.30 am	Bert Jarvis	Kelly Hunter & family	
<b>13/14 January 2024</b>	<b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 Sam 3: 3-10, 19; 1 Cor 6: 13-15, 17-20</b>		
Springbank -6.30 pm	To be Advised		Friday- Benediction after 9.30 am mass
Bungaree -8.45 am	To be Advised		Sat -Reconciliation after 9.30am mass
Ballan -10.30 am	Lesley Morffew	Ciaran, Janine & Connor Donohue	Holy Hour - 1 <sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month

LITURGIES /WEEKLY MASSES					
	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
Sat 6pm*, 6.30pm	Dunnstown	Springbank	Dunnstown	Ballan* Clarkes Hill	Springbank
Sun 8.45am, 9am *	Gordon*	Bungaree	Gordon*	Gordon*	Bungaree
Sun 10.30am	Ballan	Ballan	Ballan		Ballan
Vigil Mass ~ Korobeit Sat 5 pm ~ Creswick 6.30pm - 1st Sunday ~ Daylesford 6.30pm –3rd Sunday Sunday Masses ~ Creswick 9am – 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday; Daylesford 10.30 am – 1st, 2nd & 4th Sunday					



'The Nativity' by Lorenzo Monaco (Piero di Giovanni). Downloaded: <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/459007>. Public Domain

**Anniversaries:** Sheila Gregory, Pleasance Conroy, Kathleen Hall, Marie Graham, Fr Daniel Devane, Eileen Elliott, Fr Stephen O'Rourke, Annie (Snow) Prendergast, Roy Tynan.

**We offer our prayers for the sick:** Christine Hall, Mary Cassar, Michelle Hall, Louise Smith, George Roberts, Thelma Keating, Noel Craven, Alice Gardiner, John Healy, Elaine Conlan and Lorraine Tipple.

**Bishop Paul's Christmas Message 2024** Bishop Paul's Christmas Message is available to view on the diocesan website <https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/bishop-pauls-christmas-message-3/>. A hard copy of the message is also available to download from this page. Copies of Bishop Paul's Christmas Message are available from all churches.

**Bishop's Christmas Appeal 2023 -TODAY:** The Appeal is one way by which the diocese can respond to the many local communities. Total donations in 2022 were \$44,000. Go to the (circular icon) 'Parish Giving' link on the Diocese website homepage, click on 'Parish Giving'. Select your parish, then 'My Giving is For', and select Bishop's Christmas Appeal.

#### **Recent Happenings in the Diocese - New Ministry Districts in the Diocese of Ballarat:**

On December 6, 2023, Bishop Bird announced via email that a new grouping of parishes will take effect after Easter 2024. This decision was informed by the *Looking Forward Pastoral Plan*. The new ministry districts will be:

- Cathedral Parish, Ballarat North Parish and Beaufort Parish,
- Ballarat East Parish, Bungaree Parish and Gordon Parish,
- Redan Parish, Sebastopol Parish and Linton Parish and
- Wendouree Parish, Creswick Parish and Daylesford Parish.

Appointments of parish priests to the new ministry districts will take effect on April 10, 2024.

#### **Advance Notice 2024**

- **Rite of Election:** Saturday, February 17 at 12.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat. Lunch will follow in the Hall.
- **Mass of the Oils:** Monday, March 25 at St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat at 11.30am (please note change of time). Lunch and displays will follow in the Hall.

**150 years of the Diocese of Ballarat – 2024:** On March 30 next year, the Diocese of Ballarat will turn 150. There will be a number of events held next year to mark this occasion. The latest edition of ODC has a very informative article of the formation of the diocese, written by Sr Berenice Kerr RSM. See the display board in your church for the timeline of events.

## Parish of Gordon

### Sacramental Program 2024

The sacramental program for the Parish of Gordon will be available for children in Year 4 and above who are baptised Catholic. The program will include Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist. All enrolments for involvement in the 2024 sacramental program are due prior to Friday 15th December, 2023. Enrolment forms can be collected from St Brigid's Primary School, St Brigid's Church, St Patrick's Primary School and St Patrick's Church. Payment of \$70 is required at the first parent information session.

#### **Reconciliation**

Parent Information Session: 21/02/24 @ 7:00pm  
 • Location: St Brigid's Primary School, Ballan  
 Celebration of Sacrament: 19/03/24 @ 5:30pm  
 • Location: St Brigid's Church, Ballan

#### **Confirmation**

Parent Information Session: 23/4/24 @ 7:00pm  
 • Location: St Brigid's Primary School, Ballan  
 Celebration of Sacrament: 19/05/24 @ 10:30am  
 • Location: St Brigid's Church, Ballan

#### **Eucharist**

Parent Information Session: 24/07/24 @ 7:00pm  
 • Location: St Patrick's Primary School, Gordon  
 Celebration of Sacrament: 18/08/24 @ 10:30am  
 • Location: St Brigid's Church, Ballan

As part of the sacramental program, children and families will be required to attend Dismissal Masses for each sacrament.

### RCIA for Children 2024

We are inviting expressions of interest from parents seeking baptism for their children who are 7 years and older and have not yet been baptised. Children baptised in another Christian tradition are welcome to join the Christian initiation process. Where a request for baptism of children is made, and neither parent is Catholic, parent(s) will be invited to participate in the RCIA process.

To facilitate this process, all enrolments are required to be submitted prior to Friday 15th December, 2023. This will ensure that we can adequately prepare and create a memorable and spiritually enriching ceremony for your child.

Enrolment forms can be collected from St Brigid's Primary School, St Brigid's Church, St Patrick's Primary School and St Patrick's Church. Payment of \$100 is required upon submitting enrolment form.

#### Parish of Gordon Contact Details

(03) 5368 9280

0492 903 409

gordon@ballarat.catholic.org.au